a) a first dimension relating to a number of outputs on said switch element;

b) a second dimension relating to a number of logical paths for said data; and

c) a third dimension relating to a number of outputs from a next element.

9.   (Amended) The switch element of claim 8, wherein a queue status monitor transmits a feedback signal from said switch element to a plurality of upstream elements, said feedback signal comprising status information of output queues of said switch element.

14.   (Amended) The switch fabric network of claim 11, said second switch element further comprising an arbiter to select data for transmission of said data to a downstream element.

18.   (Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said three-dimensions comprise:

a) a dimension relating to a number of outputs on said switch element;

b) a dimension relating to a number of logical paths for said data; and

c) a dimension relating to a number of outputs from a next element.

23. (Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising transmitting a feedback signal from said switch element to a plurality of upstream elements, said feedback signal comprising status information of output queues of said switch element.

25. (Amended) The switch element of claim 24, wherein said arbiter selects said one of said output queues based on information of said switch element and information of a next element.

28. (Amended) The switch element of claim 27, wherein said three-dimensions comprise:

a)   a first dimension relating to a number of outputs on said switch element;

b)   a second dimension relating to a number of logical paths; and

c)   a third dimension relating to a number of outputs from a next element.

31.   (Amended) The switch element of claim 24, wherein said queue status monitor transmits a feedback signal from said switch element to a plurality of upstream elements, said feedback signal comprising status information of output queues of said switch element.

33. (Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein selecting said one of said output queues comprises selecting based on information of said switch element and information of a next element.

36. (Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein said three-dimensions comprise:

a)   a first dimension relating to a number of outputs on said switch element;

b)   a second dimension relating to a number of logical paths for said data; and

c)   a third dimension relating to a number of outputs from a next element.

38. (Amended) The method of claim 32, further comprising transmitting a feedback signal from said switch element to a plurality of upstream elements, said feedback signal comprising status information of output queues of said switch element.

41. (Amended) The switch of claim 40, wherein said first arbiter schedules said next data packet based on calculated transmit priorities of target queues in a downstream element.

44. (Amended) The switch of claim 39, wherein said pressure function relates to a relationship of data in said switch and data in a downstream element.